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on February 14, 2005

Date of Deposit

Jasper W. Dockrey, Reg. No. 33,868

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

Jasper W. Dockrey
Signature
February 14, 2005
Date of Signature

Case No. 9281/3900
ALPS No. N US00052

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
SATO et al.

Serial No.: 09/802,314

Filed: March 8, 2001

For: THIN-FILM MAGNETIC HEAD
APPROPRIATELY SUPPRESSING
SIDE FRINGING AND METHOD FOR
FABRICATING THE SAME

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)
) Examiner:
) T. Chen
)
)
) Group Art Unit:
) 2652
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)
)

FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the obligation under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in conformance with 37
C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicants hereby submit reference E1 listed on the attached form
PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner. A copy of the reference is enclosed
herewith.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

The Korean Patent Office issued the cited Office Action in a Korean patent application the corresponding Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2000-065280. The Korean patent application discloses subject matter similar to that disclosed in the Japanese priority application for the above-referenced U.S. application.

It is the applicants' understanding that this office action cites U.S. Patent No. 5,126,907 and Japanese Publication No. Hei 8-339508. The office action asserts that the '907 patent discloses a thin film magnetic head that includes a lower magnetic layer and an upper magnetic layer (26A, 26B, 112A, 112B), a gap (111), a coil (4, 105) and a lower core layer and an upper core layer (22A, 22B, 110A, 110B). (See Col. 7, line 23 to Col. 9, line 49 and Figs. 3 and 4.) Further, the Office Action asserts that the '907 patent discloses that an edge portion of the upper core layer is disposed at a location that is moved back in a height direction. The Office Action recognizes, however, that the '907 patent does not clearly disclose that the upper core layer is distinguishable from the upper magnetic layer. In this regard, the Japanese Publication discloses an upper magnetic core edge portion in Fig. 2. Accordingly, the Office Action concludes that it is obvious to one of skill in the art to modify the disclosure of the '907 patent in view of the Japanese Publication.

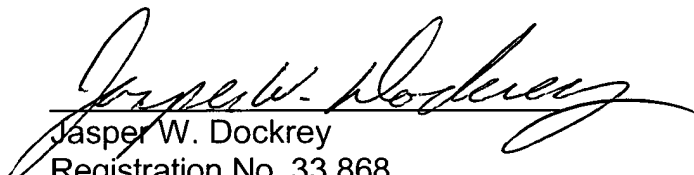
It is the applicants' understanding that the office action further states that it is obvious to one of skill to modify the shape of the upper core layer disclosed in the '907 patent (the upper core layer 26B shown in Fig. 3) and the Japanese Publication in view of the use of nonmagnetic metal material that is well known and widely used in the art. The Office Action asserts that the difference between the rejected claims and the cited references is merely the change of shape or design.

It is the applicants' understanding that the office action also states that it is obvious to one of skill to practice the claimed manufacturing method in view of the cited references.

A fee as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed herewith. Should the enclosed check be insufficient, omitted or should any additional fees be deemed necessary under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,


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Attorney for Applicants

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FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 09/802,314	CASE NO. 9281/3900
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	FILING DATE March 8, 2001	GROUP ART UNIT 2652
APPLICANTS: SATO et al.		

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS (Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	
	E1	Office Action from the Korean Patent Office for a Korean patent application corresponding to Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2000-065280 filed March 4, 2000.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.